

ITEM:

SUBJECT: City of San Joaquin, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fresno County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements and Cease and Desist Order*

BACKGROUND: The City of San Joaquin operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal facility (WWTF) for the residents and small industry in the City. The WWTF is along Springfield Avenue, appropriately 1.5 miles southwest of the City. The existing WWTF provides secondary treatment of wastewater followed by discharge to 13.5 acres of unlined disposal ponds. The City submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for its Expansion Project, which will consist of a new extended aeration treatment process that incorporates nitrogen removal. The Expansion Project will also include a modified pump station and headworks, a new blower building, sludge handling and storage facilities, modification of existing ponds, and construction of new disposal ponds.

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. R5-2002-0103, adopted on 7 June 2002, limits the monthly average discharge flow to 0.252 mgd. Self monitoring reports (SMRs) document continued violations of the discharge flow limit, with an average of approximately 0.3 mgd.

Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. R5-2002-0104, adopted concurrent with WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0103, required the Discharger to perform a series of tasks according to a time schedule to complete the expansion of the WWTF by 2003.

The City complied with some of the tasks in the CDO, but not all. The City submitted an expansion plan and time schedule, and completed the CEQA process for the expansion. However, the City did not implement the Expansion Project, partly due to funding constraints.

The City has applied for funding through the State Water Board's Small Communities Wastewater Grant program. Part of the approval process for grant funding is the adoption of updated WDRs for the Expansion Project. The City has also applied for and is in the process of obtaining funding through the USDA's Rural Utilities Service program.

The proposed WDRs would carry over the current WDRs' monthly average discharge flow limit and effluent limits until the City completes the Expansion Project. Once the Expansion Project is complete, the proposed WDRs would prescribe effluent limitations for BOD<sub>5</sub>, TSS, and EC that reflect policy within the Tulare Lake

## Basin Plan.

The City cannot immediately comply with the limits in the proposed WDRs due to lack of treatment and disposal capacity. Once the Expansion Project is complete, the Discharger should be able to comply with the terms and conditions of the proposed WDRs. The accompanying proposed CDO would require the Discharger to perform a series of tasks according to an updated time schedule to complete the Expansion Project.

### ISSUES

These items are uncontested.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the proposed orders.

Mgmt. Review\_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review\_\_\_\_\_

2 August 2007  
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